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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/802,558	03/17/2004	Tracy Alan Metzger	18474.01US2	3723
25541 7590 03/04/2010 PATENT ADMINISTRATOR NEAL, GERBER, & EISENBERG SUITE 1700 2 NORTH LASALLE STREET CHICAGO, IL 60602				
			EXAMINER SHEIKH, ASFAND M	
			ART UNIT 3627	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 03/04/2010	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

patents@ngelaw.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/802,558

Applicant(s)

METZGER, TRACY ALAN

Examiner

Asfand M. Sheikh

Art Unit

3627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 October 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5-9,11,12 and 14-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5-9,11,12 and 14-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB06)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/18/09, 6/19/09, and 10/19/09
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-3, 6, 8-9, 14, 19-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown et al. (US 6,901,381 B2) in view Brotherston (US 2002/0010633 A1) and Muehlhaeuser (US 2004/0002902 A1).

Claim 1-3, 6, 14, and 19-22

Brown discloses a system for inventory and sales reconciliation for multiple schedules events (see at least, abstract), comprising: an interface in communication with a database for entering a collection of inventory items in the database for a selected one of the multiple scheduled events (see at least, col. 4, lines 15-55: the examiner notes a management corporate headquarter assigns inventory to a train that needs to be stocked to the commissionaires at depot stations is interpreted to be an interface to communicate inventory items for a selected one of multiple schedules events and

further upload/download of data would be done via a workstation and database (see col. 12, Lines 10-20), the selected event occurring at a remote location (see at least, col. 4, lines 15-55: the examiner notes a train is a remote location); a portable terminal for transport with the collection of inventory items to the remote location for collecting sales transactions information relating to the sales of one or more of the inventory items to the consumers (see at least, col. 4, lines 15-55) and a report server for receiving information from the database and the portable terminal for reconciliation of the inventory items and sales transaction information after the selected event (see at least, col. 6, lines 35-54 and col. 7, lines 26-41), further Brown discloses [claim 2] a payment server for receiving the consumer information from the portable terminal for completing the sales transaction after the selected event, the payment server in communication with the report server (see at least, col. 6, lines 35-54 and col. 7, lines 26-41) and the report and payment servers, using the inventory and sales transaction information for completing business transactions with one or more owners of the inventory items (see at least, col. 4, lines 15-55 and col. 6, lines 35-54 and col. 7, lines 26-41) and [claim 6] wherein the consumer information comprises credit card information and the payment server is operable to route the card information to a final network for transaction authorization and settlement (see at least, col. 4, lines 15-55 and col. 6, lines 35-54 and col. 7, lines 26-41)

Brown fails to disclose the use of an Internet portal for communication and wherein the portable terminal is a PDA.

However Brotherston discloses the use of an Internet portal for communication (see at least, [0044]), further Brotherston discloses [claim 3] a remote location comprises a scheduled air line flight (see at least, [0042]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Brown to include the use of an Internet portal for communication as taught by Brotherston. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine the teachings in order to provide rigorous tracking of data to support analysis of productivity associated with both travel and service commodities (see at least, [0005]).

Brown in view of Brotherston fails to disclose wherein the portable terminal is a PDA.

The examiner notes Muehlhaeuser discloses wherein the portable terminal is a PDA (see at least, [0013] and [0036]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Brown in view of Brotherston to include wherein the portable terminal is a PDA as taught by Muehlhaeuser . One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine the teachings in order to provide wireless, attributable access to computer-based services, by means of a mobile hand-held device, by a service user (see at least, [0002]).

Claims 8-9, and 13

Brown discloses a back-office subsystem including at least one server and a database for storing a plurality of travel profiles and completed travel information (see at least, col. 7, lines 52-61 and col. 15, lines 7-29), and administrator user interface in communication with the back-office subsystem for inputting and maintaining the profiles (see at least, col. 7, lines 52-61 and col. 15, lines 7-29); and end-user interface in communication with the back-office subsystem for inputting completed travel information (see at least, col. 4, lines 15-55 and col. 6, lines 35-54 and col. 7, lines 26-41); and in-travel terminal device for completing sales transactions and tracking on-board inventory (see at least, col. 4, lines 15-55 and col. 6, lines 35-54 and col. 7, lines 26-41), further Brown discloses a profile comprises information for a default list of items to be sold on a scheduled travel (see at least, col. 7, lines 52-61 and col. 15, lines 7-29) and further completed travel information comprises sales transaction information and inventory information (see at least, col. 4, lines 15-55 and col. 6, lines 35-54 and col. 7, lines 26-41),.

Brown fails to disclose wherein the information is flight information and wherein the in-travel terminal device is a handheld device.

However Brotherston discloses wherein the information is flight information (see at least, [0042]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Brown to include the information is flight information as taught by Brotherston. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been

motivated to combine the teachings in order to provide rigorous tracking of data to support analysis of productivity associated with both travel and service commodities (see at least, [0005]).

Brown in view of Brotherston fails wherein the in-travel terminal device is a handheld device.

The examiner notes Muehlhaeuser discloses a portable device which is used for mobile commerce during travel (see at least, [0013] and [0019], [0036]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Brown in view of Brotherston to a portable device used for the mobile commerce during travel as taught by Muehlhaeuser. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine the teachings in order to provide wireless, attributable access to computer-based services, by means of a mobile hand-held device, by a service user (see at least, [0002]).

Claims 5, 7, 11-12, and 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown et al. (US 6,901,381 B2) in view Brotherston (US 2002/0010633 A1) and Muehlhaeuser (US 2004/0002902 A1) as applied to the respective independent claims, and further in view of Arteaga et al.(US 2002/0161826 A1).

Claims 5 and 11-12, 15-17

Brown in view Brotherston and Muehlhaeuser fails to disclose wherein this POS device is a PDA that has a cradle for upload/download of data and further contains a touch screen interface, printer, and magnetic card stripe reader that can perform a sales transaction/adjust inventory and capture an electronic signature.

Arteaga discloses wherein the PDA can contain a cradle for upload/download (see at least, [0008]) of data and further contains a touch screen interface, printer, and magnetic card stripe reader that can perform a sales transaction/adjust inventory and capture an electronic signature (see at least, [0087])

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Brown in view of Brotherston and Muehlhaeuser to include wherein the PDA can contain a cradle for upload/download of data and further contains a touch screen interface, printer, and magnetic card stripe reader that can perform a sales transaction/adjust inventory and capture an electronic signature as taught by Arteaga . One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine the teachings in order to provide a practical way for mobile

handheld device users to carry out real-time transactions and communications on such devices (see at least, [0005]).

Claims 7 and 18 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown et al. (US 6,901,381 B2) in view Brotherston (US 2002/0010633 A1) and Muehlhaeuser (US 2004/0002902 A1) as applied to the respective independent claims, and further in view of Albert et al. (US 5,991,410 A)

Claims 7 and 18

Brown in view Brotherston and Muehlhaeuser fails to disclose receiving transaction information from a financial network and storing settlement information into a database.

Albert discloses receiving transaction information from a financial network and storing settlement information into a database (see at least, col. 7, lines 17-29).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Brown in view of Brotherston and Muehlhaeuser to include receiving transaction information from a financial network and storing settlement information into a database as taught by Arteaga. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine the teachings in order to provide add data security capabilities to existing financial transaction devices (see at least, col. 3, lines 19-21).

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Asfand M. Sheikh whose telephone number is (571)272-1466. The examiner can normally be reached on 9a-5p.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ryan M. Zeender can be reached on (571)272-6790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Asfand M. Sheikh/
Examiner, Art Unit 3627
2/26/2010

/F. Ryan Zeender/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3627